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**PENRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1969**

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

C. A. BENTLEY, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
(Also Northern Area Medical Officer of Health,  
Cumberland County).

### CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

COLIN WILDING, M.A.P.H.I.

### ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

MICHAEL PHILLIPS, M.A.P.H.I.

### CLERK/SHORTHAND TYPIST:

Mrs. JOAN WILSON.

MANSION HOUSE,  
PENRITH.  
November, 1970.

*To the Chairman and Members of  
The Penrith Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

**Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.**

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Health of the community for the year 1969.

I am pleased to include in the report the contribution of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

My thanks go to members of the Council, to my colleagues in other departments of the Council and members of the Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
C. A. BENTLEY,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District (in acres) ... ..	181,531
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	3,763
Rateable Value ... ..	£333,031
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£1,309
Registrar General's estimate of the Population mid year 1969 ... ..	11,410

### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at mid year 1969 was 11,410 being a decrease of 10 over the 1968 figure.

## VITAL STATISTICS

	Males	Females	Total	Rates
(a) <i>Live Births:</i>				
Legitimate	86	76	162	
Illegitimate	2	4	6	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	88	80	168	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population (crude rate) ... ..				14.7
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor of 1.07 ... ..				15.7
Illegitimate Live Births (percent of total Live Births) ... ..				4.0
(b) <i>Still Births:</i>				
Legitimate	1	—	1	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) ... ..				6.0
England and Wales Rate 1969				13.0

Deaths	Males	Females	Total	Rates
Deaths at all Ages	60	54	114	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	10.0
Corrected Death Rate by comparability factor of 1.04	...	...	...	10.4
Maternal Deaths				
(including abortions)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths of Infants				
Under one year	4	—	4	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	24.0
Neonatal Mortality (Deaths in first month per 1,000 live births)			...	24.0
England and Wales Rate		...	...	18.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births plus Deaths in first week per 1,000 total live and still births)				30.0
Rate for England and Wales	...		...	23.0

Table showing the Vital Statistics for England and Wales and certain groups in the County of Cumberland.

	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
England and Wales	..	..	16.3
Administrative County of Cumberland	..	..	15.2
Urban Districts of Cumberland (including Boroughs of Workington and Whitehaven)	..	..	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	..	..	12.7
Rural District of Penrith (crude rate)	..	..	14.6
Corrected by Comparability factor	..	..	15.1
	..	..	12.0
	..	..	10.0
	..	..	10.4
	..	..	24.0

NOTE.—The corrected rates should be used for comparison with other areas.

## PENRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL RATES 1954-1969

Year	Population	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Total Infantile Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate	England & Wales Infantile Mortality Rate
1954	11,490	10.8	15.5	3	17.4	25.5
1955	11,500	12.3	15.2	4	22.3	24.9
1956	11,480	10.5	17.5	6	30.7	23.8
1957	11,500	11.8	15.6	4	22.9	23.0
1958	11,480	11.5	17.7	5	25.4	22.5
1959	11,480	10.9	19.7	Nil	Nil	22.0
1960	11,510	11.2	16.9	5	26.3	21.7
1961	11,310	11.4	17.6	2	10.3	21.4
1962	11,390	12.2	17.2	5	26.3	21.4
1963	11,430	12.8	17.6	Nil	Nil	20.9
1964	11,490	12.0	20.6	4	18.0	20.0
1965	11,510	11.1	16.3	4	22.9	19.0
1966	11,460	12.9	17.4	5	27.0	19.0
1967	11,480	10.4	16.7	1	6.0	18.3
1968	11,420	11.9	17.3	3	16.0	18.0
1969	11,410	10.4	15.7	4	24.0	18.0

**Cancer Mortality**

Lung Cancer deaths in the Rural area were 3.

**Cancer Deaths**

Location of Disease				Males	Females
Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	3	—
Uterus	...	...	...	—	2
Intestine	...	...	...	4	—
Stomach	...	...	...	1	2
Other sites	...	...	...	4	7
				—	—
				12	11
				—	—

**Deaths from all Causes**

The deaths recorded in 1969 totalled 114, a decrease of 16 over the previous year giving a corrected death rate of 10.4 per 1,000 of population compared with 11.9 in 1968 and an England and Wales rate of 11.9 in 1969.



Because of the small size of the statistics, infant death rates in the area vary a great deal from year to year.

CANCER DEATHS, as already indicated totalled 23 representing 20% of all deaths. Lung Cancer deaths must be regarded as preventable as almost all such deaths can be attributed to the cigarette-smoking habit.

Some uterine cancers are also preventable. Screening for early disorders of the cells of the neck of the womb ("the cervical smear technique") is well organised in the district. This is being done by the family doctors and their nursing teams and should reduce the number of cancers of the cervix or neck of the womb, long term.

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM, excluding Tuberculosis, accounted for 5 deaths equal to 4.3% of all deaths.

DISEASES OF THE HEART AND CIRCULATORY SYSTEM, accounted for 70 deaths a decrease of 3, and equal to 61.4% of all deaths compared with 56.1% in 1968.

Smoking, particularly cigarette-smoking, contributes also to chronic bronchitis and ischaemic heart disease (coronary heart attacks). Both of these are diseases with other linked causes and in the case of ischaemic heart disease, the consumption of a diet too rich in animal fat plays a part in causation.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS accounted for 1 death, 3 less than in 1968, while the total for all other accidents was 5 being 2 more than in 1968.



# Causes of Death as given by the Registrar General, 1969.

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. ..	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. ..	4	—	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .. ..	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. ..	—	2	2
Leukaemia .. ..	—	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms .. ..	3	5	8
Diabetes Mellitus .. ..	1	1	2
Hypertensive Disease .. ..	1	—	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease .. ..	20	24	44
Other forms of heart disease .. ..	4	7	11
Cerebrovascular Disease .. ..	11	8	19
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. ..	4	7	11
Influenza .. ..	—	1	1
Pneumonia .. ..	1	—	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema .. ..	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. ..	—	1	1
Peptic Ulcer .. ..	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System .. ..	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .. ..	—	1	1
Congenital Anomalies .. ..	2	—	2
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .. ..	2	—	2
Symptoms and ill Defined Conditions .. ..	—	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	1	—	1
All Other Accidents .. ..	2	3	5
	60	54	114

# Age Group of Death of All Cases, 1969.

Age Group	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over
Males ..	4	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	7	20	25
Females ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	7	15	26
Total ..	4	-	-	1	-	2	3	4	14	35	51

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NOTE:—68 % of total deaths occurred in age groups of 65 years and over.

44 % of total deaths occurred in age groups of 75 years and over.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**

### **1. Laboratory Services**

There has been no change in the arrangements which have continued for the past number of years.

The Public Health Laboratory at the Cumberland Infirmary, under the direction of Dr. A. I. Inglis, Consultant Pathologist, and Dr. D. G. Davies, Consultant Bacteriologist, have been responsible for all the necessary services.

### **2. Ambulance Facilities**

The Ambulance facilities in East Cumberland which includes the Penrith Rural District is a directly operated service with central bases in Carlisle and Penrith.

### **3. Nursing in the Home**

The County Council, as the Health Authority of the area, provide all the necessary facilities and District Nurses/Midwives also act as Health Visitors in their own districts.

# Notification of Infectious Diseases—1969 in Age Groups

Diseases	Ages	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	45-	55-	65-	Total	Died
Infective Hepatitis	..	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	12	-
Measles	..	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Scarlet Fever	..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
TOTALS	..	-	-	-	3	-	-	7	2	2	-	1	-	1	-	16	-

Notification of Infectious Diseases—1955 to 1969

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Scarlet Fever .. ..	6	-	3	2	23	6	11	1	-	1	4	-	3	-	2
Dysentery Sonnei .. ..	18	19	1	-	7	-	8	12	11	1	27	-	1	6	-
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia .. ..	7	25	23	12	5	4	1	-	4	5	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas .. ..	-	3	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Meningitis .. ..	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Measles .. ..	161	1	286	-	105	59	71	44	230	94	42	87	227	10	2
Whooping Cough .. ..	40	14	27	1	5	4	-	-	6	3	2	1	3	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning .. ..	-	8	1	-	6	-	1	32	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12
	(Notifiable from June, 1968)														
TOTALS .. ..	234	71	249	18	153	74	92	89	259	105	76	88	235	21	16

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Notifications of Infectious Diseases totalled 16.

### **Infective Hepatitis**

This disease notifiable only from June, 1968, has been the commonest notified disease.

This is a disease associated with poor personal hygiene, and control is difficult because of the long incubation period. Health education leading to cleaner personal habits should help to limit the spread of the disease.

### **Measles**

Vaccination against measles can be obtained through the family doctor, and many children have been vaccinated during the year. Two cases only have been notified during the year, but this low figure must not lead to complacency and there are still many children susceptible to this infection.

### **Scarlet Fever**

Two cases only have been notified during the year. This is at present a mild disease.

### **Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Smallpox**

Primary immunisation is available in infancy against all of these, and is usually carried out by the family doctor. At school booster injections are given against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis.



## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of new cases added to the Register and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1969.

AGE	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
1—4 years ..	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	—	—	—	—
15—24 years ..	—	—	—	—
25—34 years ..	2	—	—	—
35—44 years ..	1	—	—	—
45—54 years ..	—	—	—	—
55—64 years ..	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	3	—	—	—

Two cases were removed from the Register for the following reasons:—

		Males	Females	Total
Left District	...	—	—	—
Recovered	...	—	2	2
Died	... ..	—	—	—

The following table gives the number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1969.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	9	6	15
Non-Pulmonary	—	2	2
	—	—	—
	9	8	17
	—	—	—

### Prevention of Tuberculosis

#### (a) MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

The static X-Ray Unit at 1 Brunswick Street, Carlisle is now open five days a week with open sessions, mornings, afternoons and Wednesday evenings without any prior appointment being necessary.

#### (b) B.C.G. VACCINATION

The B.C.G. Vaccination, with prior Mantoux or Heaf testing of school children aged 12 years was undertaken in the Secondary Schools in the area.

## HOUSING

*I am grateful to Mr. E. A. Burne for the following information on housing matters.*

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I submit the following report on housing matters for the year 1969.

Plans are in preparation and negotiations are in progress for Old People's Bungalows:

Kirkoswald	...	...	...	12
Greystoke ...	...	...	...	14
Watermillock	...	...	...	4
Skelton ...	...	...	...	6
Great Salkeld	...	...	...	2

The total number of Council Houses now occupied in the Rural District up to the end of 1969 is as follows:—

Aikbank	..	..	..	4	Lazonby (Eden Square)	..	7
Ainstable	..	..	..	8	Lazonby (Old People's)	..	6
Ainstable (Old People's)			..	2	Little Salkeld	..	16
Aldby ..	..	..		2	Low Braithwaite	..	2
Armathwaite	..	..	..	8	Low Hesket	..	12
Armathwaite (Old People's)				2	Low Plains	..	4
Blencarn	..	..	..	4	Mellguards	..	2
Blencowe	..	..	..	4	Melmerby ..	..	6
Calthwaite	..	..	..	11	Mungrisdale	..	2
Catterlen	..	..	..	8	Newbiggin ..	..	16
Clickhem	..	..	..	4	Newton Reigny	..	4
Culgaith	..	..	..	22	Ousby	..	6
Dacre	..	..	..	4	Pallet Hill ..	..	2
Dockray	..	..	..	2	Penruddock	..	6
Edenhall	..	..	..	4	Plumpton	..	15
Gamblesby	..	..	..	4	Plumpton (Old People's)		2
Glassonby	..	..	..	4	Renwick	..	4
Glassonby (Old People's)			..	2	Salkeld Dykes	..	4
Great Salkeld	..	..	..	4	Skelton	..	10
Great Salkeld (Old People's)				2	Skelton (Old People's)	..	6
Greystoke	..	..	..	22	Skirwith	..	8
Greystoke (Old People's)			..	4	Southwaite	..	2
Howes	..	..	..	2	Sowerby Row	..	2
Hunsonby	..	..	..	19	Stainton	..	22
Hutton End	..	..	..	4	Stainton (Old People's)		6
Ivegill ..	..	..	..	4	Thiefside	..	4
Kirkland	..	..	..	2	Threlkeld	..	39
Kirkoswald	..	..	..	28	Threlkeld (Old People's)	..	2
Langwathby	..	..	..	20	Winskill (Old People's)	..	6
Langwathby (Old People's)				4	Wordsley House,		
Langwathby (The Meadows-G.P.)				6	Kirkoswald (Flats)	..	2
Langwathby (The Meadows- Old People's)			..	10			
Lazonby	..	..	..	26	TOTAL	..	481

Private building in the district remains steady at 23 new houses built in 1969 with a further 9 under construction at the end of the year. This gives a total of 375 houses completed privately in the post war period.

All plans which are approved by the Council are subject to periodical inspections during the progress of the work, this includes new houses, renovations and repairs, construction and siting of all septic tanks, testing of drains and to see that work complies with the 1965 Building Regulations.

### **Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958**

No applications were received for the erection of any houses for agricultural workers under the above Act. The grant is for housing agricultural workers whereby the applicant is entitled to a grant of £10 p.a. for 40 years.

### **Housing Act 1969**

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government have amended their improvement grants to give more advantages to the people who make applications.

#### **1. DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**

The ceiling of this has now been raised from £400 to £1,000 which includes the cost of repairs and replacements. The amount for repairs not to exceed one half approved for improvements.

To qualify for a Discretionary Grant a dwelling must where practicable, after improvement or conversion meet the following twelve-point standard laid down by the Ministry as follows:—

- (a) be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (b) have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- (c) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on inside the dwelling.
- (d) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- (e) have an internal water closet if practicable, otherwise a readily accessible outside water closet.

- (f) have a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (g) be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangement for the disposal of waste water.
- (h) have a proper drainage system.
- (i) be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (j) be provided with adequate facilities for heating.
- (k) have satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food.
- (l) have proper provision for storing fuel (where required).

Exceptionally, the Council may agree to dispense with a requirement if they are satisfied that it cannot be complied with in a particular case.

The Council have to be satisfied that all properties, if they receive a Discretionary Grant must have a life of at least 30 years.

In the current year 42 applications were received. All properties were inspected and technical advice given on the proposed improvements.

Since the Act came into force a total of 511 applications involving improvements to dwellings have been dealt with by the Council, 41 of which were either disapproved or cancelled and at the end of the year 395 schemes have been satisfactorily completed providing 443 Grade 1 houses.

## 2. STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Standard Grants are given for improving houses by providing for the first time any missing amenities.

The standard amenities are:—

- (a) fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (b) wash-hand basin.
- (c) sink.
- (d) hot and cold water supply at a:—
  - (i) fixed bath or shower;
  - (ii) wash-hand basin;
  - (iii) sink.



(e) water closet.

Half the cost of the improvement works subject to a normal maximum of £200. The improvements being calculated against the items given below which have to be provided.

Fixed bath or shower	...	...	£30
Wash-hand basin	...	...	£10
Sink	...	...	£15
Hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower	...	...	£45
Hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand basin	...	...	£20
Hot and cold water supply at a sink	...	...	£30
Water closet	...	...	£50

In September 1964 the Standard Improvement Grant was amended: the Council now have power to increase the maximum grant to £450, the items quoted above remain the same but additional grant can be given for providing the following:—

- (a) if the Council are satisfied that it would not be reasonably practicable to provide a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom except by building on to the property (or by converting outbuildings which will be attached to it) an amount equal to half the reasonable cost of this improvement will be substituted for the normal allowance of £30.
- (b) if the Council are satisfied that it would not be possible or reasonably practicable to provide a W.C. and connect it to main drainage, and the W.C. is to be installed with septic tank or cesspool drainage, an amount equal to half the reasonable cost of this improvement will be substituted for the normal allowance of £50.
- (c) if, in order to carry out the improvements, a piped supply of cold water is brought to the property for the first time, an additional amount equal to half the reasonable cost of this work can be included in the calculation of the maximum grant.

If all or any these circumstances apply, the grant is subject to an overall maximum of £450 instead of the normal £200.

The Standard Grant is a statutory obligation on the Council providing that the house is structurally sound and will give satisfactory accommodation for at least 15 years.

Since this Act came into operation the Council have received a total of 235 applications; 14 of these are for the current year and 187 schemes have been satisfactorily completed.

There is a time limit in carrying out and completing both Discretionary and Standard Grants, the Council fixed a period of 18 months from the time of approval, with power to extend this time limit in special circumstances.

A number of people in the Rural District have taken advantage of both the Discretionary and Standard Improvement Grants. All properties were carefully inspected and technical advice given on both planning and building construction and how far the Act can be implemented in each application.

A considerable amount of enquiries have been dealt with, some of which have not gone forward for the grant either because the property could not be brought up to standard at a reasonable expense or not up to the standard to qualify for a grant.

Yours faithfully,

E. A. BURNE,

Architect and Surveyor.



*To the Chairman and Members of  
the Penrith Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this report on the work of the department during the year, 1969.

### Water Supplies

The major part of your area is served by main water supplies, the Eden Water Board being the responsible Authority.

During the year the Board carried out further improvements in the area designed to improve quality and quantity of water. There appears to be little complaint concerning the quantity of water and those fellside villages which previously had a doubtful quality of water, now have chlorinated supplies. The whole area apart from Ainstable have good chlorinated supplies. The supply at Ainstable is a good supply and gives little cause for complaint.

The following table shows that the majority of houses in the area are connected to the public mains supply and that practically all other properties have the benefit of private piped supplies.

Parish	Population	No. of Inhab- ited Houses	No. of Houses Supplied Direct from Public Main	Popula- tion Supplied	No. of Agricul- tural Meters Fixed
Ainstable ..	450	146	143	439	38
Castlesowerby	346	101	100	345	65
Catterlen ..	336	109	108	335	24
Culgaith ..	642	224	223	640	35
Dacre ..	1013	356	350	1011	68
Glassonby ..	295	94	91	290	30
Great Salkeld ..	350	127	124	349	24
Greystoke ..	530	209	187	525	29
Hesket ..	2020	656	642	2009	156
Hunsonby ..	407	135	124	397	47
Hutton ..	308	97	89	299	34
Kirkoswald ..	742	208	196	713	38
Langwathy ..	620	200	199	611	34
Lazonby ..	660	227	216	648	32
Matterdale ..	535	199	138	354	38
Mungrisdale ..	301	99	93	286	44
Ousby ..	318	109	102	310	29
Skelton ..	964	295	278	955	115
Threlkeld ..	573	172	158	522	—
Total ..	11420	3763	3561	11038	880

## Water Sampling

Water sampling of public supplies is carried out both by the Water Board and this Council, samples being regularly taken from the various sources of supply.

During the year 85 samples were taken from the public supplies and private supplies and of these 12 proved unsatisfactory.

### WATER SAMPLING RESULTS 1969

<i>Supply</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
PUBLIC SUPPLIES			
Ainstable .. ..	3	—	3
Armathwaite .. ..	1	—	1
Croglin .. ..	1	3	4
Culgaith .. ..	4	—	4
Dacre .. ..	1	—	1
Dowthwaite Head .. ..	1	—	1
Edenhall .. ..	5	—	5
Gamblesby .. ..	5	—	5
High Hesket .. ..	5	—	5
Kirkland .. ..	3	1	4
Lazonby .. ..	5	—	5
Mosedale .. ..	1	—	1
Mungrisdale .. ..	5	—	5
Newbiggin, Croglin .. ..	1	3	4
Ousby .. ..	5	—	5
Renwick .. ..	1	3	4
Skirwith .. ..	4	—	4
Threlkeld .. ..	6	—	6
Troutbeck .. ..	5	—	5
PRIVATE SUPPLIES			
Matterdale .. ..	3	—	3
Threlkeld .. ..	5	—	5
Calthwaite .. ..	1	—	1
Watermillock .. ..	2	2	4
TOTALS .. ..	73	12	85

## Sewerage

Progress on the provision of modern sewerage systems within the area has continued. Work on the scheme for Skirwith village continued, but the scheme for Lazonby and Kirkoswald was completed, as also was the scheme at Melmerby which was started and completed within the year. The treatment works at Melmerby marked a departure from tradition as far as treatment works in our area are concerned; an activated sludge system in the form of a “Pasveer Ditch”

was built, and it is hoped that many advantages will be derived from this method, not the least being a lower capital cost for construction of the works.

The provision of modern works and sewerage systems in a rural area is a very costly operation compared with the more urban development, and the smaller the village, the greater the cost per house. The majority of the larger village schemes are now completed and it can now be expected that costs per house will rise as further inroads are made into the problem.

No progress can be reported during the year on the long awaited Threlkeld scheme, but schemes are in the design stage for Langwathby, Catterlen, Greystoke, Newton Reigny, Penruddock and Motherby. The works to be built at Southwaite to serve the new Motorway Service Area will also take in the village of Southwaite.

The following villages all have modern sewage disposal schemes which have been completed in recent years, Skelton, High and Low Hesket, Armathwaite, Stainton and Newbiggin, Lazonby and Kirkoswald and Melmerby. There are in addition to these, 70 other Council plants of varying size and efficiency, catering for villages and small groups of houses. The majority of the plants consist of septic tanks which although serving a useful purpose give very poor effluents by modern standards.

The Council operate a cesspool emptying service by means of a 1,000 gallon cesspool emptier and this machine has ensured that all Council owned tanks are satisfactorily maintained. A free service to the public for emptying of domestic septic tanks once per year is operated.

During the year 114 Council tanks and 136 private tanks were emptied.

The method of disposing of wastes from farms has become more frequently a cause for complaint. The pattern of farming has altered to give a more intensive way of rearing animals and bird and the problems associated with disposal and treatment of wastes from these "factories" has grown considerably. The main method of disposal has been by spreading the animal wastes back onto the land. This in itself can give rise to many problems not the least being the foul smell which can pervade the country air for many miles. I do not think that such obnoxious smells which come from pig and poultry manure can be classed as the "farm yard smell" which one expects to live with in a rural area, and there is no doubt that the method of treatment and purifying of the wastes must receive more attention as farming is intensified.



## **Refuse Collection**

The refuse collection service, which has so long operated a fortnightly collection, was this year completely re-organised. An additional vehicle was purchased, and a weekly collection is now given to the majority of villages in the district. Schools and all the larger hotels are now collected weekly together with Blencathra Hospital and caravan sites, which previously did not have the benefit of this service. Two vehicles are used for refuse collection and another lorry can be equipped with a canvas cover for emergencies. Over 500 miles each week are covered in collecting domestic refuse.

Refuse tips are located at:—

1. Kirkoswald.
2. Ellonby.
3. Lothian Gill – Hesket.

Ths tips at Kirkoswald and Ellonby are open to the public for disposal of domestic refuse and a free collection of bulky domestic items is also given to the public. These are both directed at avoiding “dumping” of such materials on the roadside, which seems to be a part of our “throw away” society. The general make up of domestic refuse has altered considerably in recent years. The amount of paper, packaging material and containers has increased markedly, which gives a more bulky type of refuse. Both the refuse collection vehicles are of the compressor type which enables this type of refuse to be handled easily, but the material causes difficulty at the refuse tips. The tips are a constant worry and with the type of tipping practised can easily become a source of nuisance. It is also becoming very difficult to acquire new refuse tips and many attempts have met with little success.

## **Public Conveniences**

There are no public conveniences within the rural district despite the fact that it is a tourist area. The greatest need for such a facility is at the Aira Force Cafe car park Ullswater. This large parking area is frequently full to capacity with cars and coaches and it does not need much imagination to see what is required. The need for toilets was acknowledged over six years ago and since that date the number of visitors has increased rapidly, and will not doubt continue to do so. The responsibility for providing public conveniences at Aira Force has been taken over by the “Lake District Planning Board”. This Rural Council is the Health Authority for the area and pressure must be put on the Planning Board to expedite the provision of these necessary facilities; the need is urgent.

**Food and Drugs Acts, 1955**

The following is a list of food premises in the district:—

Poultry Dressing	...	...	...	3
General Stores	...	...	...	33
Butchers	...	...	...	5
Cafes	...	...	...	9
Hotels and Licenced Premises	...			56
Bakehouses	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 107 <hr/>

Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream 49

Premises registered for the manufacturing  
of ice-cream ... .. 2

One manufacturer uses the hot mix process where the whole mix is pasteurised before sale, and the other uses the cold mix process consisting of adding a sterile ice-cream powder to water.

The following results were obtained from the thirteen samples of ice-cream taken:—

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
7	3	2	1

All food premises are periodically inspected and closer attention is given to the hotels and catering establishments. The standard of cleanliness is generally good, but the difficulties in obtaining experienced staff in the catering industry is a factor which can often influence this standard.

Several complaints of mouldy bread were received during the year, and also a complaint of stones in fruit cake. On each occasion the complaints were taken up with the Manufacturers concerned. In the case of mouldy bread, the Manufacturers instituted further safe-guards to prevent re-occurences which usually arose at the delivery end of the business.

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Slaughterhouses ...		8	18
Wholesale premises ...			44
Retail shops ... ..		1	22
Cooked meat and meat products ... ..			17
Canned meats ...			35
Other canned meats ...		4	72
Fish (fresh) ... ..		1	—
Fruit and vegetables (fresh) ... ..			49
Other Foods ... ..			40
		16	73

### Poultry Inspection

Number of Poultry Processing Premises ... ..					3
Number of Visits ... ..					132
Types of Birds processed:—					
Hens ... ..					468,200
Broilers ... ..					2,500
Capons ... ..					23,460
Turkeys ... ..					9,500
Ducks ... ..					Nil
Total number of birds processed ... ..					503,660
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption ... ..					2.42%
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	16 tons	6 cwts.			60 lbs.



The number of birds processed in the area was again above the half million mark. Regular weekly visits are paid to the establishments concerned and a general oversight maintained on the fitness of the birds and condition of the premises. Only a very small population of birds can be inspected and the responsibility for ensuring that all poultry is fit for human consumption rests with the occupiers of the premises. After repeated warnings about the conditions in one factory, court action was taken against the person responsible, and fines totalling £42 were imposed by the magistrates.

The Slaughter of Poultry Act came into effect during the year and this involved the registration of premises where poultry was slaughtered. It is a measure to ensure that cruelty to birds being slaughtered was avoided and did not help in controlling other aspects of food production.

### **Milk Supplies**

Ninety-seven samples of untreated milk were taken during the year. Six samples gave positive results on the "Milk Ring Test", but proof of Brucellosis was not established. Six samples also failed the Methylene Blue Test, a test for keeping quality, and in each case the results were taken up with the producers concerned.

There is still a considerable amount of untreated milk retailed in the district, as one would expect in a rural area, and in many villages it is of course impossible to obtain pasteurised milk. Three schools are still supplied with untreated milk compared with four in the previous year and it is expected that this number will soon be reduced.

Progress has been made with the Ministry of Agriculture<sup>e</sup> Brucellosis scheme and there are now over 50 herds<sup>s</sup> accredited within your district.

### **Meat Inspection**

There is one licensed slaughterhouse at Kirkoswald, where all meat is inspected and stamped by the Inspector before it can be sold.

A total of 912 carcasses has been inspected during the year and this work has involved 268 visits to the slaughterhouse, and a total of 8 cwts. 18 lbs. of meat was found to be unfit. The quality of the meat produced at this slaughterhouse is excellent.

The following table shows details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned.

Particulars	Cattle except Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	223	—	—	659	30
Number inspected .. ..	223	—	—	659	30
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	6	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	60	—	—	107	2
Percentage of the number killed affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .. ..	26.9	—	—	17.14	6.66
<b>Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was affected ..	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	3.33
<b>Cysticercus Bovis</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .. ..	—	—	—	—	—

#### CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

- Cattle:** 48 whole or part livers – fascioliasis  
9 whole livers – abscesses  
2 heads and tongues – actinobacillosis  
2 part carcasses – cysticercus bovis  
2 part carcasses – severe bruising  
2 sets mesentery – pentastomidia  
2 kidneys – hydronephrosis
- Sheep:** 1 whole carcase – septic pneumonia  
1 whole carcase – toxæmia  
1 whole carcase – taenia multiceps and severe emaciation  
1 whole carcase – severe bruising and emaciation  
3 whole carcasses – septicaemia  
8 part carcasses – bruising

- 1 part carcase – abscesses
- 9 part carcasses – taenia multiceps
- 2 part carcasses – arthritis
- 43 whole or part livers – fascioliasis
- 32 whole or part livers – parasites
- 3 whole livers – abscesses
- 9 hearts – cysticercus ovis

- Pigs:**
- 1 part carcase – tuberculosis
  - 1 part carcase – pluerisy
  - 1 part carcase – arthritis

### Factories Act

There are forty-seven factories registered in the area, and all these are inspected from time to time and close co-operation is maintained with H.M. Factories Inspectors to ensure overall compliance with the Regulations.

The one prosecution concerned offences at a Poultry Processing premises and were concerned with the sanitary conveniences.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### PART 1 OF THE ACT

#### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

(including Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is to be enforced by the Local Authority ..	47	25	6	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises .. ..	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	47	25	6	1

## 2. Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	2	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	14	12	—	2	5
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	16	14	—	3	5

### Outworkers

There was one outworker concerned with the making of wearing apparel, on the list required by Section 133 (1).

Industry	Number
Animal Feeding Stuffs Manufacture	1
Bakehouse ... ..	1
Brush Manufacture ... ..	1
Building Maintenance ... ..	3
Caravan Manufacture ... ..	1
Concrete Products ... ..	4
Electricity ... ..	1
Food Processing ... ..	3
Grain Grinding ... ..	1
Millboard ... ..	1
Motor Vehicle Repairs ... ..	8
Precision Engineering ... ..	1
Repair of Electrical Equipment ...	3
Repair of Plant ... ..	1
Road Works ... ..	1
Sand Lime Bricks ... ..	1
Sawmill or Joinery ... ..	11
Slaughterhouse ... ..	1
Civil Engineering ... ..	2



## Housing and Slum Clearance

The slum clearance programme has continued during the year and 27 houses, considered unfit and not repairable at reasonable cost, have been dealt with by Closing Orders or Official Undertakings.

Seven Closing Orders have been removed during the year following satisfactory renovation of the houses concerned.

There are now a total of 128 houses standing in the area which are the subject of Closing Orders, etc., and 27 of these houses are still occupied, some many years after the Orders have been made. It is hoped that more progress can be made by the Council in rehousing these people, as it is difficult to carry out a slum clearance programme, if houses are not available for rehousing. It is unfortunate that 1969 was a year when no Council houses were completed, this primarily being due to difficulties in acquiring land.

There is still a great emphasis on the improvement of old property and there is no doubt that the improvement grants available from this Council over the last twenty years, have made some impact on housing conditions, as over 10% of houses in the area have been improved with the aid of grants. This year saw the £400 improvement grant increased to £1,000, but whether this will make much difference to the number of houses improved remains to be seen, as the owner of course must himself find at least £1,000 if he is to receive £1,000 grant. Nevertheless, the scheme has great attractions, and I am sure if more people were aware of it more applications would be received.

Many houses have been reclaimed from slum property and several of these have been renovated at uneconomical costs to provide week-end cottages, or for retirement for people outside the area. The demand for such property increased yearly and in the National Park area where planning permission for a new house is difficult to obtain, the renovation of old property and the conversion of old farm buildings will increase. It will be increasingly difficult for young local people to obtain houses in this National Park area, and the further provision of Council houses may have to be considered.

## HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

### HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In or Adjoining Clearance Areas	Unfit for human habitation	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Included by reason of bad arrangement	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	On land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
Not in adjoining Clearance Areas	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Local authority owned houses certified under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
	Houses included in unfitness orders made para. 2 of the Second Schedule to the land compensation Act 1961	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
Number of houses included above which were previously reported as closed in pursuance of Closing Order or undertakings		In or adjoining clearance areas Not in or adjoining clearance areas	- -

### UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

#### in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings

Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act 1961	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	24 24
Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	- -
PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957	Number of dwellings	-



### Number of PERSONS DISPLACED

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ..	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ..	2
From houses to be closed .. .. .	21
From parts of buildings to be closed .. .. .	—

### Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas ..	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas ..	2
From houses to be closed .. .. .	8
From parts of buildings to be closed .. .. .	—

### UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

After informal action by Local Authority	by owner ..	53
After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16	(a) by owner ..	7
	(b) by local authority	—
After formal notice under Public Health Acts		—
Previously included in a clearance order		
which has been or will be modified or		
revoked under Section 24, Housing Act,		
1961 .. .. .		—
Previously included in a demolition order		
which has been or will be revoked under		
Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..		—
Previously included in a Closing order which		
has been or will be determined under		
Section 27, Housing Act, 1957 ..		—

### OTHER HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

After formal notice under Public Health Acts		—
After formal action under Section 9 (1A)		
Housing Act, 1957 .. .. .	(a) by owner ..	—
	(b) by local authority	—
After informal action by local authority		4

### UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE

(Housing Act, 1957)

Retained for Temporary Accom- modation	Under Section 48	Number of Houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwell- ings contained therein	—
	Under Section 17 (2)	Number of houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwell- ings contained therein	—
	Under Section 46	Number of houses ..	—
		Number of separate dwell- ings contained therein	—

## PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	Number of houses ..	—
	Number of occupants	—

### Caravan and Camping Sites

Thirty caravan sites are licenced under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

The largest of these sites is licenced for 113 caravans and the total number of caravans is 460. There are also 3 chalets in use during the summer months and licences are in force under the Public Health Act, allowing 55 tents on two of the caravan sites. During the year the number of licenced caravans was increased by 5.

The conditions on all sites have been satisfactory and a high standard of amenity is provided; water closets, showers, basins, laundry facilities and hot water being required on all the larger sites.

Ullswater is the chief centre of attraction in the Council's area and the demand for sites for both caravans and tents is rapidly increasing and the completion of the motorway to the south of Penrith will no doubt accelerate this increase.

The majority of the sites in the area cater for caravans renting a site for the season and more accommodation is required for the tourist caravanner, who requires a site for up to two weeks. There appears to be reluctance on the site owners to provide for the tourist and it may be that the provision of suitable sites by either this Council or the Lake District Planning Board will be the answer. The present policy of siting caravan sites well away from the lake, is obviously the correct one and there are no doubt many suitably screened areas within a few miles which would make admirable sites.

### Swimming Pools

There are three pools in the area which are open to the public and these are situated at Hunsonby, Culgaith and Lazonby. Only the Lazonby pool has the water automatically filtered and chlorinated, although plans are being made for the improvement of Hunsonby pool.

Samples are regularly taken from all pools and advice given on the maintenance of a reasonable standard of purity of water in the pools.

## Prevention of Damage Pests Act, 1949

The Council employ a part-time rodent operator who is also employed by the Penrith Urban District Council. All the Council's tips and sewage works are now regularly treated for rats and sprayed for flies during the summer months.

Treatment of infestations in domestic property is carried out without charge, and other properties charged on a time and material basis. Several contracts have been entered into for the treatment of farms and other business premises on an annual basis.

Properties Other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of Properties in district ..	4,018	945
2. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. .. .	91	13
Number infested by (i) Rats ..	70	12
(ii) Mice ..	21	1
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .. .. .	106	77
Number infested by (i) Rats ..	94	62
(ii) Mice ..	12	—
SEWERS infested by rats .. ..	4	—



# THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

**TABLE A**  
REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	Number of Premises Registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of regis- tered premises receiving a general inspec- tion during the year
Offices .. .. .	1	12	6
Retail Shops .. .. .	2	12	6
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens..	2	19	13
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>26</b>

**TABLE B**

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered  
premises .. .. . 50

**TABLE C**

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN  
REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices .. .. .	62
Retail Shops .. .. .	32
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to the public	105
Canteens .. .. .	—
Fuel Storage depots .. .. .	—
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Total Males .. ..</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Total Females ..</b>	<b>133</b>



TABLE D

## EXEMPTIONS.

## PARTS I, II, III AND IV

Parts:—I Space (Sec. 5(2), II—Temperature (Sec. 6), III—Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9),  
IV—Washing Facilities (Sec. 10(1)).

Class of Premises (1)	No. of exemp- tions current at end of year (3)	During the Year				Appeals to Court against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the withdrawal of an exemption	
		No. of exemptions		No. of applications refused (6)	opposed by employees (7)	No. made (8)	No. allowed (9)
		newly granted (3)	extended (4)	expired or with- drawn (5)			
Offices .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Retail shops .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to public, canteens ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fuel storage depots ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS.

Section	Number of Contraventions Found	Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness .. .. 4	13	Sitting facilities .. 2
5	Overcrowding .. .. -	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers -
6	Temperature .. .. 6	15	Eating Facilities .. 1
7	Ventilation .. .. 2	16	Floors, passage and stairs .. .. 6
8	Lighting .. .. 4	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery .. .. 7
9	Sanitary Conveniences .. 5	18	Protection of young per- sons from dangerous machinery .. .. 2
10	Washing facilities .. 2	19	Training of young per- sons working at dan- gerous machinery .. 2
11	Supply of Drinking Water 2	23	Prohibition of heavy work .. .. -
12	Clothing Accommodation 3	24	First Aid 15
			Other matters .. 8
			Total .. .. 71

## REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported		Total No. Investi- gated	Action Recommended			No action
	Fatal	Non-Fatal		Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal advice	
Offices .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Retail Shops .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Catering establishments open to public, canteens .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Fuel Storage Depots .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	

**TABLE E**  
**PROSECUTIONS**

PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED OF WHICH THE HEARING  
WAS COMPLETED IN THE YEAR

Section of Act or title of Regulation or Order	No of Informations Laid	No of Informa- tions leading to a conviction
Nil	Nil	Nil
No. of Persons or Companies Prosecuted	...	Nil
No. of complaints (or summary applications) made under section 22	... ..	Nil
No. of interim orders granted	... ..	Nil

**TABLE F**  
**STAFF**

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	... ..	2
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	...	Nil

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. WILDING,

Chief Public Health Inspector.









